

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1013 - HB 1555

March 8, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Specifies that, under the Governmental Tort Liability Act, "health care practitioner" means physicians licensed under T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 6, and nurses licensed under T.C.A. Title 63, Chapter 7.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Local Govt. Expenditures - Cost Avoidance - Exceeds \$100,000

The October, 2000 state Supreme Court decision in Mooney v. Sneed affirmed the lower court's decision that emergency medical technicians (EMT's) and emergency medical technician paramedics (EMT-P's) were health care practitioners and were not protected by immunity provisions of the Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act. This estimate assumes in the absence of the bill, local governments would have to purchase malpractice insurance for EMT's and EMT-P's that they employ. The cost of such insurance is estimated to be significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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